

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a festival to give thanks for the harvest. It is celebrated mainly in America and Canada. In Canada, Thanksgiving day is held on the second Monday of October.

In America, it is held on the fourth Thursday in November.

In 2009, Thanksgiving in Canada takes place on October 12.

In America, Thanksgiving takes place on November 26.



A First Thanksgiving Dinner Menu

[Cornbread](#) - admired by both the English and Native Americans

[English Cheese Pie](#) - cheese was important to the English

[Venison](#) - five deer were brought by the Native Americans

[Wild Turkey](#) - Native Americans and English alike enjoyed this meal

[Garlic and Onions](#) - staples of the diet

[Pumpkin Pudding](#) - there wasn't pumpkin pie at the time

[Indian Pudding](#) - can be served as a warm or cold dessert

The first thanksgiving meal was attended by Native Americans and the English pilgrims (*see a picture of the pilgrims above*)

There were no forks, just knives and spoons and wooden plates!



Turkey is the traditional meat eaten at a Thanksgiving dinner



A basket full of fruit and vegetables show the success of the harvest



A Thanksgiving dinner is held where family members and friends meet

THE HISTORY OF THANKSGIVING

The Beginning

Long ago some people in England wanted to leave the country. They decided to go to a new country. These people were known as **pilgrims**.

They went to America on a ship called the **Mayflower**.

When they arrived it was a very cold winter and their crops did not grow.

They were helped by two native American Indians called Squanto and Samoset who showed the pilgrims how to survive the winter. They showed the pilgrims how to hunt, fish and to grow crops.

As a result, the pilgrims had a successful harvest and celebrated it by having a big feast.

The pilgrims invited the native indians to share their feast as a thank you.



The First Thanksgiving

The pilgrims landed on December 26, the day after Christmas. The ground was hard and frozen.

This was probably the worst time to land.

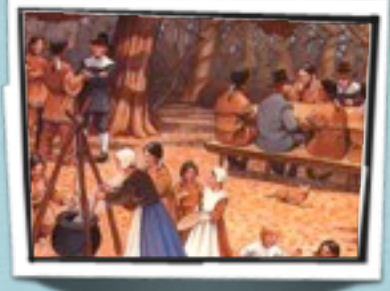
There was no food, and half of the pilgrims died. The fact that half of them survived was due to the help of the native American Indians.



The early pilgrims landing in Plymouth, America.



The Mayflower had carried 102 pilgrims. Some of them are exhausted.



This is an imaginary picture of the first thanksgiving dinner.